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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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No copies of the listed documents are included, because it is a United States patent. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document

and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO 1449 form.

N/A: English translations of the non-English documents are attached.

___ The following is a concise statement of the relevance of the non-English language documents.

___ In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English language documents, an English language version of a search report from a foreign patent office in a corresponding application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that: (i) Applicant has read or analyzed any of the documents cited herein, except as otherwise provided; (ii) a search has been conducted; (iii) that no other documents exist which may be material to the examination of this application exist; or (iv) that any of the listed documents, or any part thereof, are material or constitute prior art under title 35 of the United States Code. Applicant reserves the right to present evidence and arguments to counter an assertion that any such documents are prior art, and/or to establish the patentability of the claimed invention.

Respectfully Submitted,

BY: 

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Applicants) hereby petitions for any extension of time or for any other grounds needed to make this submission timely and proper. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due in connection with this submission and not otherwise covered by payment included herewith, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 502088.

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated below, this correspondence and all attachments indicated herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

By: 

Date: 8/21/03

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persons are required to respond

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Attorney Docket Number:

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| FOREIGN DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---|--|--|-------------|
| Examiner Initials | Foreign Patent Documents | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | | Translation |
| | Office | Number | Kind Code (if known) | | | | |
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.